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NEWS RELEASE

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A former Springville resident was sentenced last week after pleading guilty to four felony counts related to state income tax fraud.

Glen Mihlfeith, 64, pleaded guilty to two counts each of theft by deception and communications fraud in 4th District Court, Provo.

Judge David Mortensen ordered Mihlfeith to serve 120 days in jail, pay restitution in the amount of \$27,586 and be on supervised probation for at least 36 months. The restitution amount includes 100 percent criminal penalty plus interest.

Utah State Tax Commission investigators charged Mihlfeith defrauded taxpayers of more than \$12,500 in fraudulent income tax refunds after stealing another person's identity and creating false tax returns between 2004 and 2007.

"He submitted several fraudulent tax returns using the identity of another person, as well as his own," said Charlie Roberts of the Utah State Tax Commission. "He also tried to obtain additional fraudulent refunds of over \$43,000."

Roberts explained that although the identity theft victim did not sustain loss of tax refunds, fraudulent refunds obtained by Mihlfeith were from income taxes paid by others.

Mihlfeith was extradited to Utah on Aug. 1 following his arrest in Idaho Falls.

The criminal investigation unit of the Utah State Tax Commission investigated this case that was prosecuted by the Utah County Attorney's office.

"All state income taxes benefit Utah's children through the education fund and the Tax Commission vigorously pursues theft and fraud cases," Roberts added.

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